

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application.

Claims 1-12 are requested to be cancelled.

Claims 13-24 are being added.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 13-24 (12 claims) are now pending in this application.

The present application is a national phase application in the United States of International Application No. PCT/EP03/01889, filed on February 25, 2003 and claims priority back to German Application No. 10209759.3 filed on March 5, 2002.

Applicants have provided a substitute specification which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference which adds paragraph numbers and heading titles, as appropriate to conform with USPTO practice. Applicants state that no new matter has been added to this substitute specification. For the preliminary amendment, Applicants submit that the specification should be amended to include a cross-reference to the related applications of the PCT and German applications cited above.

Applicants have deleted claims 1-12 and have replaced them with new claims numbered 13-24. Such new claims correct style, terminology and comply with multiple dependent claim requirements. Support for the substantive amendment to the claims and the new claims are in the specification and drawings as originally filed.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 09-01-04

By James A. Wilke

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 26371
Telephone: (414) 297-5776
Facsimile: (414) 297-4900

James A. Wilke
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 34,279